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(54) **Multi-capability facilities monitoring and control intranet for facilities management system**

(57) A facilities monitoring and control intranet is defined by two separate and independent communication links, one for supporting communication between facilities infrastructure equipment and a monitoring device, and one for supporting communication between the monitoring device in a system server in a server/client architecture. A communication link between facilities equipment and their associated client monitor is adapted to conform to each infrastructure device's vendor defined communication interface and supports communication between a facilities device and its client monitor in the infrastructure device's native language protocol. One or more client devices are coupled to a system server through a network link, with the network adapted to support TCP/IP packet-based data transmission protocols. The system server provides initial set-up parameters and continuing operating instructions to each client device over the network link. Subsequently, client devices carry out normal monitoring functions locally, over their local communication link. Intervention by the system server is no longer required unless and until a client device determines that one of its supported pieces of infrastructure equipment is functioning outside of its normal operating parameters. The System server gives the appropriate control information to the client which communicates the control code to the out-of-parameter device in its native language protocol. The system then reverts to its local configuration, with the client device only communicating with the system server on a period-

ic, keep-alive packet basis.

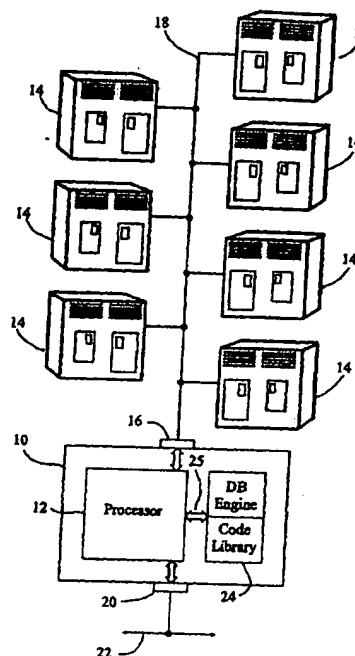


FIG. 1

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 99 30 4991

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	EP 0 825 506 A (FOXBORO CORP) 25 February 1998 (1998-02-25) * page 1, column 2, line 6 - line 8 * * page 3, column 3, line 40 - line 44 * * page 3, column 3, line 46 - line 55 * * page 3, column 4, line 21 - line 25 * * page 3, column 4, line 41 - line 45 * * page 5, column 8, line 38 - line 55 * * page 5, column 8, line 54 - line 56 * * page 6, column 9, line 12 - line 16 * * page 6, column 10, line 26 - line 30 * * claims 5,9 * * figure 1 *	1-3,5, 7-10,12	H04L29/06 H04L12/28 G05B19/042
A	US 5 682 329 A (SEEM JOHN ET AL) 28 October 1997 (1997-10-28) * page 2, column 4, line 51 - line 63 * * figure 1 *	1-12	
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			H04L G05B G06F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 10 December 2002	Examiner Hes, R
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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10-12-2002

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